

New Mexico – Today, Harry Teague issued this statement in response to Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's announcement ending the moratorium on deepwater oil and gas drilling:

"In order to boost our economy and continue to grow jobs, it's essential that we support American industry. Today's announcement is good news for American workers, good news for the American economy, and good news for our energy independence. While it is critical that we ensure operators are in compliance with all existing and new safety rules and requirements, our country – and the Gulf Region in particular – simply cannot afford a policy that puts tens of thousands of jobs at risk. This is why I called on Secretary Salazar to end to the moratorium and voted to end the ban, so we can get Americans back to work securing our energy future.

Moving forward, I am committed to supporting our nation's responsible, independent producers that provide jobs for so many hardworking Americans. With today's announcement, we will continue to work to improve the safety of deepwater drilling as we responsibly develop more of our domestic energy resources."

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